

M/s Hind Al Co.

557. SHRI G. S. MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M/s. Hind Al Co. have been accorded a sanction for an expansion capacity of 60,000 MT of metal per year;

(b) if so, the details of Government assistance in the following shape: (i) Loan (ii) Foreign Exchange Component (iii) Payment terms to their collaborators on the profit of the expansion capacity;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the present installed capacity of M/s. Hind Al Co. as sanctioned is 60,000 M.T. of metal per year, whereas the actual capacity is 72,000 M.T. per year; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) The Hindustan Aluminium Corporation were granted a Licence under the Industries (Development & Regulation) Act, 1951, on 6th December 1966, for expansion of their existing aluminium smelter capacity at Renukoot (Uttar Pradesh) from 60,000 to 120,000 tonnes per annum subject to the conditions stipulated in the Licence.

(b) Government have not given any assistance to the Corporation in the shape of loan. Their detailed proposals for foreign collaboration, including terms of payment to their collaborators, are under examination of the Government. Their proposals for foreign exchange financing have not yet been finalised and submitted to the Government.

(c) and (d). The actual production achieved by the Corporation during the months of April, May and June 1968 was respectively 4487 tonnes, 4810 tonnes and 4601 tonnes as against the installed capacity of 5000 tonnes per month. It may also be feasible, in due course, to attain an additional

10—12% production by improving the operational efficiency and by the use of a little higher line current. Under the liberalised licensing policy of the Government of India, industrial undertakings are also permitted to exceed their production upto 25% of their licensed capacity.

Korba Aluminium Plant

558. SHRI G. S. MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the 100,000 M.T. per annum capacity Korba Aluminium Plant, when commissioned, would be the most costly metal producing unit, and would be a permanent liability on public exchequer; and

(b) if so, what are Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) A realistic estimate of the cost of production of aluminium metal in the Korba (Madhya Pradesh) Aluminium Project could be worked out only on preparation of a detailed project report. Negotiations are in progress in connection with the finalisation of a contract with the Soviet Union for preparation of a project report for the smelter portion of the Project. Present indications, however, are that cost of production of aluminium metal at Korba would be comparable with the cost of production in other projects in the country.

(b) Does not arise.

Koyna Project of Bharat Aluminium Company

559. SHRI G. S. MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Koyna Project of Bharat Aluminium Company which was earlier on the offer of M.S. V.A.W. of West